

## HISTORY OF CHINA

HISTORY 262/2    LEC. 51

FALL, 2000

INSTRUCTOR:    M. Singer

OFFICE:            AD 229 (Loyola)

TELEPHONE:    848-2082

E-MAIL: [msinger@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:msinger@vax2.concordia.ca)

OFFICE HOURS:    By appointment

CLASS HOURS:    TUESDAYS 18:05-20:10

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to China's history from earliest times to the modern era. The first half of the course is devoted to traditional China and consists of a series of thematic lectures on China's political, philosophical/religious, social, economic, diplomatic and cultural traditions. The second half focuses on China since 1800, with particular emphasis on the West in China; on the three stages of the Chinese revolution (Taiping, Nationalist and Communist); and on the transformation of China after 1949.

### INTERNET SUPPORT:

Video versions of class lectures (as well as course syllabus, lecture outlines and reading lists) will be available on the internet to students registered in the course. More detailed information will be made available at the first class. As well, students may enroll in a course related electronic discussion group ([china@concordia.ca](mailto:china@concordia.ca)).

### REQUIRED TEXTS:

Ebrey, Chinese Civilization: A Sourcebook

Schirokauer, A Brief History of Chinese Civilization

### EXAMINATIONS:

There will be a mid-term examination on Tuesday, October 24 and a formal final examination which is to be scheduled during the December examination period.

### OPTIONAL PAPERS:

Some students may wish to do an optional paper in addition to the two examinations. They should look initially at the list of suggested reading topics available from the instructor. Those who wish to pursue other topics should do so only after consultation with, and approval from, the instructor. Each student electing to do an optional paper is expected to read at least three books on the theme that he or she selects and to produce a short (10-page) critical essay based on the readings. The optional essay is to be typewritten and must be submitted no later than Wednesday, November 17 to be considered.

#### **GRADING:**

For those students who do not write the optional term paper, the grading distribution will be as follows: mid-term exam - 40%, final exam - 60%. For those students who do write an optional paper, the grading distribution will be as follows: mid-term exam - 25%, paper 25%, final - 50%.

**HISTORY OF CHINA  
SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS  
FALL, 2000**

DATE:                      LECTURE TOPIC:

Sept. 5                      Course orientation

Sept. 12                     Geographical context

**TRADITIONAL CHINA**

Sept. 19	Historical Framework	
Sept. 26	Philosophy and Religion	<b>READINGS</b>
Oct. 3	Government and Politics	Ebrey, Sections I-VI Schirokauer, Chaps. 1-10
Oct. 10	Society and Economy	
Oct. 17	Culture/Foreign Relations	
Oct. 24	Mid-term examination	

**MODERN CHINA**

Oct. 31	The West comes to China	
Nov. 7	The beginnings of the Chinese Revolution	Ebrey, Sections VII-VIII Schirokauer, Chaps. 11-16
Nov. 14	Nationalists: the revolution continues	
Nov. 21	Communists: the revolution succeeds	
Nov. 28	China since 1949	

# China's Dynasties in Multi-dimensional Perspective

CHOU 1122-256 B.C.

HAN 202 B.C. - A.D. 220

NORTH/SOUTH

T'ANG 618-907

SUNG 960-1279

MING 1368-1644

CH'ING 1644-1911

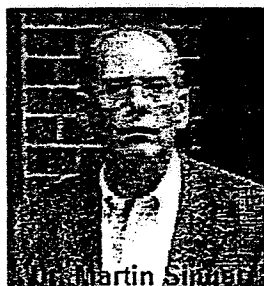
EXTERNAL RELATIONS	Unorganized "barbarians" no major threat	United China strong and expansive, but Hsiung-nu gradually dominate north	Successive Hsiunish & Turkish peoples dominant in north	China again strong & expansive, but T'u-chüeh <i>et al</i> gradually stronger	Increasing barbarian incursions culminate in Mongol conquest of 1279	Reunited Chinese again dominate all of East Asia	Manchus dominate East Asia, gradually sink under European pressure
POLITICAL	Centralized feudal empire, then chaotic wars among regional states	New centralized empire with strong aristocracy, growing emphasis on appointed bureaucrats	Semi-barbarian states in north; Han-style states in south; dominance of great families in government	New united empire; increasingly bureaucratic	Great age of exam-recruited Confucian scholar-statesmen	Bureaucratized monarchy reaches its authoritarian maturity	Ming system perpetuated; gradual decline of vitality and responsiveness
SOCIO-ECONOMIC	Chinese culture saturates area north of Yangtze; wheat, millet, hemp, silk; small regional trade	Gradual Chinese expansion to the south coast; rice and tea; trade across Central Asia	South becomes integrated into Chinese cultural area; neo-feudal social organization	South becomes China's "rice bowl"; grand canal; extensive trade overland and by sea	South becomes pre-eminent social and economic region; great growth of cities and commerce	North China gradually recovers; new crops increase production; cotton, corn, peanuts, sweet potatoes, early rice	Stable. Prosperity gradually undermined by great population growth; appearance of permanent pauper, dispossessed class
INTELLECTUAL	Base of political order: Mandate of Heaven; then Confucianists, Taoists, Legalists respond differently to social and political chaos	Imperial Confucian orthodoxy, putting the Confucian spirit into Legalist institutions	Disillusion and ferment; neo-Taoism; Buddhism	Eclectic tolerances; cosmopolitan beginnings of Confucian renewal	Ch'an (Zen) at its peak, but soon obscured by Neo-Confucianism	Generally conservative Chu-Hsiism; brief flourish of "idealistic" Wang Yang-ming doctrine	Conservative traditionalism; disdain of ideas of new European intruders
LITERARY	Folk and ritual poetry; historical chronicles; philosophical writings	Emphasis on classical scholarship; rise of great historiographic tradition; poetry in various styles; paper invented	Elegant, highly stylized poetry and prose; beginnings of sophisticated literary criticism	Great age of poetry; also famous essayists and historians; Buddhist writings	Printing extends literacy; poetry, essays, scholarship all flourish	Perpetuation of T'ang/Sung tradition; rise of colloquial literature: drama, short stories, novels	Great historical scholarship; otherwise conservative traditionalism
ARTISTIC	Bronze ritual vessels	Bronze mirrors; painted tomb tiles; clay figurines	Buddhist statuary and grotto paintings	Beginnings of great porcelain and landscape painting traditions	Lustrous monochrome porcelains; great age of painting; especially landscapes	Polychrome porcelain—especially blue & white; further development of Sung painting tradition	Conservative traditionalism



**Concordia**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Arts & Science

## History 262 - Martin Singer



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### Lectures:

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6

7 - 8 - 9 - 10 - 11

Exams: Midterm - Final

Readings - Grades

Links - Student Info

Country Profile

Discussion Groups

Course Evaluation

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### Internet Support

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Please make regular use of the discussion groups as they will be used to provide ongoing information regarding the course. As well, you can use these groups to discuss information on specific topics covered in the materials with others taking the course.

**Required Texts -** *(These books are available in the Concordia University bookstore.)*

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Schirokauer, A Brief History of Chinese Civilization

## Examinations

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## Optional Papers

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## Grading

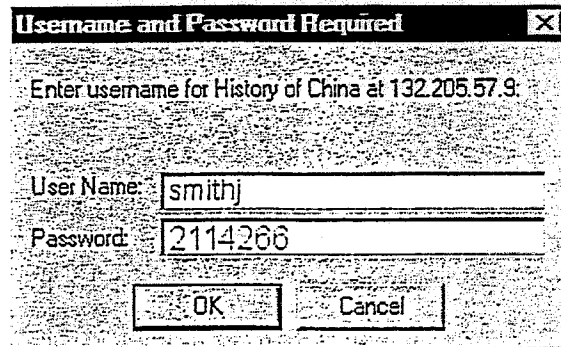
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## Additional Information regarding the WEB site for History 262

The Web site address as noted at the bottom of this page is:  
<http://132.205.57.9/hist262> or <http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/hist262> . This page contains a number of resources useful for this course.

All of the lectures will be posted in Video format and accessible to all students registered in the course. Access to these lectures will be gained through using your *last name with the first letter of your first name at the end as your User Name and your student ID as your password*. These passwords will not be ready until September 12, 2000. You do not need to do anything to register; all of the accounts are created from a computer generated course list.

For Example:for John Smith, ID number 2114266.



Username and Password Required

Enter username for History of China at 132.205.57.9:

User Name: smithj

Password: 2114266

OK Cancel

These lectures require that you have Real player installed on your computer with the appropriate sound card. If you do not have access to a computer with the ability to play videos on line please contact.

Catherine Sutherland  
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There are facilities on campus which will allow you to access all of the materials for this course. You can make arrangements with the office above to access this equipment. If you have any difficulties using the Web site for this course you may call the number noted above.

